

***In the Claims***

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1. [Currently amended] A method for workload planning, comprising the steps of:

determining for each of a plurality of prospective customers, a projected volume of material for processing;

determining for each customer a complexity factor for processing said material, including identifying any critical factors, dismantling prototype machines, identifying work content and resulting saleable, commodity, and trash items, said complexity factor representing processing time divided by said volume as defined during prototype dismantling and subsequently modified by actual experience;

said critical factors including specific asset protection requirements, destruction, and impairment techniques, regardless of any financial benefit or cost;

utilizing periodic updates of said projected volume and of said critical factors and of any other factors, prior customer product shipment experience and new manufacturing product prototyping to establish and adjust said complexity factor for each of said plurality of customers; and

responsive to said projected volume and said complexity factor for each of said plurality of customers, determining staffing requirements and productivity targets for a demanufacturing enterprise for processing said material for a plurality of future periods to facilitate advanced warning and the time to preclude any future staffing or capacity issues.

1       2. Canceled

1       3. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising  
2       the step of converting said volume to weight.

1       4. [Currently amended] The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1,  
2       further comprising the steps of converting said volume to  
3       weight, and determining said complexity factor by  
4       prototyping.

1       5. [Original] The method of claim 4, said prototyping  
2       including the step of disassembly prototyping.

1       6. [Original] The method of claim 5, said disassembly  
2       prototyping step being applied to new material and further  
3       comprising the step of accumulating historical data for  
4       determining said complexity factor for previously  
5       disassembled material.

1       7. [Currently amended] The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1,  
2       said projecting step further comprising the step of  
3       determining an expected number of truckloads of said  
4       material.

1       8. [Original] The method of claim 5, said disassembly  
2 prototyping further including the step of determining  
3 salvageable and disposable content for said material of a  
4 given equipment type.

1       9. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising  
2 the steps of applying said quantity projections and  
3 complexity factors to workload planning model for  
4 forecasting workload requirements for said processing; and  
5 responsive to said workload requirements determining  
6 staffing requirements and resource balancing between  
7 projects.

1       10. [Original] The method of claim 9, further comprising  
2 the steps of adjusting said workload requirements for  
3 absenteeism, fatigue, breaks, and vacation pattern factors.

1       11. [Original] The method of claim 9, said workload  
2 planning model being implemented as a computer spreadsheet.

1       12. [Original] The method of claim 11, further comprising  
2 the step of periodically updating said workload planning  
3 model based upon actual and anticipated changes in quantity  
4 projections and complexity factors.

1       13. [Previously presented] The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising the step of calculating said productivity targets  
3 for a demanufacturing enterprise using said quantity  
4 projections and complexity factors.

1       14. [Currently amended] A method for forecasting staffing  
2 requirements for a demanufacturing enterprise, comprising

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3 the steps of:

4 determining for each of a plurality of prospective  
5 customers, a projected volume of material returns for  
6 processing;

7 determining for each customer a complexity factor for  
8 processing said material, including identifying any  
9 critical factors;

10 said critical factors including specific asset  
11 protection requirements, destruction, and impairment  
12 techniques, regardless of any financial benefit or cost  
13 factors;

14 converting projected customer material returns for each  
15 said customer to weight, multiplying said weight by a  
16 complexity factor determined initially by disassembly  
17 prototyping and subsequently modified by actual  
18 experience to generate a staff requirement for each of  
19 a plurality of customers, said disassembly prototyping  
20 including dismantling prototype machines in accordance  
21 with said financial benefit and cost factors and  
22 further with respect to any said critical factors,  
23 identifying work content and resulting saleable,  
24 commodity, and trash items, said complexity factor  
25 initially representing time for said disassembly  
26 prototyping divided by said weight;

27 utilizing periodic updates, prior customer product  
28 shipment experience and new demanufacturing product  
29 prototyping to establish and adjust said complexity

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30                   factor for each of said plurality of customers;

31                   generating a summation of said staff requirements for  
32                   all customers at a plurality of future checkpoint to  
33                   facilitate advanced warning and the time to preclude  
34                   any future staffing or capacity issues; and

35                   adjusting said staff requirements for all customers by  
36                   an expected absenteeism factor, fatigue factor, breaks  
37                   requirements, and vacation patterns to generate said  
38                   staffing requirements and productivity targets for said  
39                   demanufacturing enterprise.

1       15. [Original] The method of claim 14, further comprising  
2                   the step of executing said converting, generating, and  
3                   adjusting steps in a spreadsheet model.

1       16-18.      Canceled

2       19. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable  
3                   by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions  
4                   executable by a machine to perform method steps for workload  
5                   planning, said method steps comprising:

6                   determining for each of a plurality of prospective  
7                   customers, a projected quantity of material for  
8                   processing;

9                   determining for each customer a complexity factor for  
10                  processing said material, including, dismantling  
11                  prototype machines, identifying work content including  
12                  identifying any critical factors and resulting

13           saleable, commodity, and trash items, said complexity  
14           factor representing processing time divided by said  
15           projected quantity as initially defined during  
16           prototype dismantling and subsequently modified by  
17           actual experience;

18           said critical factors including specific asset  
19           protection requirements, destruction, and impairment  
20           techniques, regardless of any financial benefit or cost  
21           factors;

22           utilizing periodic updates, prior customer product  
23           shipment experience and new demanufacturing product  
24           prototyping to establish and adjust said complexity  
25           factor for each of said plurality of customers; and

26           responsive to said projected quantity and said  
27           complexity factor, determining staffing requirements  
28           and productivity targets for processing said material  
29           at a plurality of future checkpoint to facilitate  
30           advanced warning and the time to preclude any future  
31           staffing or capacity issues.

1       20. [Original] The program storage device of claim 19,  
2       said method steps further comprising the step of projecting  
3       said quantity by volume.

1       21. [Original] The program storage device of claim 19,  
2       said method steps further comprising the step of converting  
3       said volume to weight.

1       22. [Original] The program storage device of claim 20,

2 said method steps further comprising the step of converting  
3 said volume to weight, and determining said complexity  
4 factor by prototyping.

1 23. [Original] The program storage device of claim 22,  
2 said prototyping step including the step of disassembly  
3 prototyping.

1 24. [Original] The program storage device of claim 23,  
2 said disassembly prototyping step being applied to new  
3 material and further comprising the step of accumulating  
4 historical data for determining said complexity factor for  
5 previously disassembled material.

1 25. [Original] The program storage device of claim 20,  
2 said projecting step further comprising the step of  
3 determining an expected number of truckloads of said  
4 material.

1 26. [Original] The program storage device of claim 23,  
2 said disassembly prototyping further including the step of  
3 determining salvageable and disposable content for said  
4 material of a given equipment type.

1 27. [Original] The program storage device of claim 19,  
2 said method steps further comprising the steps of applying  
3 said quantity projections and complexity factors to workload  
4 planning model for forecasting workload requirements for  
5 said processing; and responsive to said workload  
6 requirements determining staffing requirements and resource  
7 balancing between projects.

1       28. [Original] The program storage device of claim 27,  
2       said method steps further comprising the step of adjusting  
3       said workload requirements for absenteeism, fatigue, breaks,  
4       and vacation pattern factors.

1       29. [Original] The program storage device of claim 27,  
2       said workload planning model being implemented as a computer  
3       spreadsheet.

1       30. [Original] The program storage device of claim 29,  
2       said method steps further comprising the step of  
3       periodically updating said workload planning model based  
4       upon actual and anticipated changes in quantity projections  
5       and complexity factors.

1       31. [Original] The program storage device of claim 28,  
2       said method steps further comprising the step of calculating  
3       said productivity targets for a demanufacturing enterprise  
4       using said quantity projections and complexity factors.

1       32. [Currently amended] A computer program product for  
2       forecasting staffing requirements for a demanufacturing  
3       enterprise, comprising:

4                a computer readable medium;  
5                first program instructions for converting projected  
6        customer returns to weight, multiplying said weight by  
7        a complexity factor determined initially by disassembly  
8        prototyping and thereafter modified by experience to  
9        generate a staff requirement for each of a plurality of  
10      customers, said disassembly prototyping including

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11 dismantling prototype machines, identifying work  
12 content including identifying any critical factors and  
13 resulting saleable, commodity, and trash items, said  
14 complexity factor calculated as processing time divided  
15 by said weight;

16 said critical factors including specific asset  
17 protection requirements, destruction, and impairment  
18 techniques, regardless of any financial benefit or cost  
19 factors;

20 second program instructions, utilizing periodic  
21 updates, prior customer product shipment experience and  
22 new demanufacturing product prototyping, for  
23 establishing and adjust said complexity factor for each  
24 of said plurality of customers;

25 second third program instructions for generating a  
26 summation of said staff requirements for all customers;  
27 and

28 third fourth program instructions for adjusting said  
29 staff requirements for all customers by an expected  
30 absenteeism factor, fatigue factor, breaks  
31 requirements, and vacation patterns to generate said  
32 staffing requirements and productivity targets for said  
33 demanufacturing enterprise; and wherein

34 said first, second, and third third, and fourth program  
35 instructions are recorded on said computer readable  
36 medium.

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